

Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2007

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 PM.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

Attendance

Present:

Lisa D'Andrea
Suzanne Crean
Aldona LaPorta
Frank Alcorace

Margie Paul-Gaston
Ty Smith
Craig Malone
Mindy Fragosa

Absent:

Nancy Wilcox

Officer's Report

Secretary's Report

Minutes for May were presented. Margie Paul-Gaston motioned to accept the minutes. Craig Malone seconded. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report

Balance with encumbered expenses as listed is \$9.42. Lisa D'Andrea will buy stamps with the balance. Craig Malone motioned to accept the financial report. Margie Paul-Gaston seconded. Motion passed.

Public Comment

Amelia Nagoski joined us and is interested in becoming a commissioner.

Old Business

Summer Concert Series

The concert schedule was reviewed for each commissioner's night of responsibility. Ty Smith will submit all the PO's necessary for the bands. Commissioners will need to get the checks on their respective Tuesday to pay the band that night. Concert "bucket nights" were explained to Amelia.

Rain location for the 102nd Army Band will be the United Methodist Church, not St. Hedwig's.

The Army band food committee is Frank Alcorace, Suzanne Crean, Aldona LaPorta, and Amelia Nagoski. Several caterers were discussed, including the Knights of Columbus. Mindy Fragoso will ask area restaurants to possibly donate the food. Amelia Nagoski will look into getting recycled paper goods - better for the environment. Mindy has offered to buy the paper goods. (Mindy spoke about the state initiative "Go Green by 2010". She is encouraging the town boards to be one of the first towns to sign on.) Frank Alcorace will coordinate with Kathy Carten of St. Michael's about getting the tables and chairs. Commissioners were asked to watch their e-mail for news as to whether Mindy was able to get the food.

The CT Commission has approved our grant for \$1070. After the state budget has been approved, paperwork to apply for the check will be sent.

Vacancies

Two commissioners will be needed after Amelia Nagoski joins.

Senior Events

Good Time Harmony Club will perform on 6/28/07. Margie Paul-Gaston has their check and

a digital camera to take pictures. The former state troubadour will be happy to perform for \$100, possibly in October. Besides singing, she plays the mountain dulcimer and is comfortable with adults and children. Margie Paul-Gaston will look into having her play twice, for the Seniors and Central Avenue School.

Veterans Concert

Craig Malone complimented Ty Smith on 'a job well done'. There has been much positive feedback. Having a 'sound' person was a great idea. Everything ran very smoothly. Commissioners were asked to watch for any new ideas or acts.

Poetry Reading

The event went off on Sunday, June 10th and was attended by 65 people. Besides the high school readers, 3 adults read. There was positive feedback on everything and the museum was very happy with the turnout and the students. They complimented the students' behavior and would be willing to host another reading. The commissioners discussed possibly getting area colleges involved next spring. Craig Malone will speak with Dunkin Donuts owner, Manny Rocha, about donating coffee and ...

Photo Contest

The flyers have been distributed to the schools, Citizens News, churches, Senior Center, and will be on the Green during the summer concerts.

Photography Classes

Craig Malone has not been able to find an instructor interested in teaching a beginner class, because there are so many different cameras available. Suzanne Crean suggested encouraging people to attend the CVS classes, since part of our mission is to promote local business. Suzanne will attend the class, see how it works, and see if that instructor would be willing to teach a class for the commission. Mindy Fragoso also suggested asking Paul Singley from the Waterbury American.

Book Club

No news.

Chalk Walk

Suzanne Crean will coordinate with MaryAnn about the time and supplies. She will be needing some new chalk. Margie Paul-Gaston motioned to allocate \$20 to Suzanne for "Chalk Walk" supplies. Craig Malone seconded. Motion passed.

Harvest Moon Festival

Lisa D'Andrea reserved a booth space. She is looking for ideas and a possible slide show or photographs. Lisa and Ty Smith researched display boards and found a folding Velcro board with plastic holders, retailing for \$153.19 with a case. They displayed the board for the commissioners, and explained its use for the summer concerts, Harvest Moon, and other activities. Suzanne Crean motioned to allocate \$153.19 for the board and another \$50 to purchase a folding table for various activities. Margie Paul-Gaston seconded. Motion passed

Commissioners discussed the display, with music from the Veterans' concert, summer concerts, etc. Holding a raffle was discussed. Craig Malone will look into any legalities involved.

New Business

Vendors at the Green

Discussion on what type of vendors to allow. Decision to allow only community/ non-profit groups on the Green during the summer concerts. Others may set up off the Green, if they wish.

Ty and Lisa Expenditures

Arts Commission remaining monies had to be spent by June 30th, so Ty Smith and Lisa D'Andrea did some research into several items that would benefit activities. They presented the folding Velcro display board (already discussed and approved) and information on a small PA system. The system has a wireless

microphone and could be used for activities at the schools, Historical Society, etc. It will be tested out during the summer. The cost was \$390.

Summer Meetings

After discussion, summer meetings were moved to Wednesdays, because concert nights can be hectic. Next two meetings will be July 18 and August 22.

Grant Check Presentation

Commission grant checks for the library, NHS Colorguard, and NHS Literary Club need to be presented. Commission members will present them and have their pictures taken for publicity. Ty Smith will present to the library, Frank Alcorace to the Colorguard, and Margie Paul-Gaston to the Literary Club.

Future Events

Suzanne Crean has been researching Murder Mystery groups and kits, both for adults and children. She is waiting for replies. Frank Alcorace suggested having Seven Angels do a small play or help with a Murder Mystery. Mindy Fragoso inquired if the Arts does anything specifically for handicapped/disabled children. She has heard of a puppet show that uses handicapped puppets. Margie explained that arts are brought to an entire school, therefore including any handicapped students. She also asked Mindy for the name of that special puppet troupe.

Roundtable

Mindy announced that Mayor Bronko has asked the present community liaisons to remain with their committees, if possible. She would not be offended if the commission would like to replace her. It is difficult for her to attend many Tuesday nights, because she also attends the Police Commission meetings. She does enjoy helping with the arts and working with the commission. The members are grateful for her help and do not see the need to replace her.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 P.M. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Respectfully submitted,
Aldona LaPorta
Treasurer
(in Nancy Wilcox's absence)